

Pastoral Council: March 7, 2017

Present: Gina Petry, Roland Breunig, Doug Kotecki, Ron Steponkus, Dan Brantner, Patti Behrens, Mary, Barrett, Margaret Hollenberger, Sue Tronnes, Kelly Aleson, and Becky Eastman, RE Director

Absent Jared Hammer, Father Dave

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Sue Tronnes, who also led us in prayer. Father Dave was unable to attend due to illness.

The minutes of the previous meeting were not dealt with because the complete copy of the minutes was not included in our packet. This will be taken care of at the next meeting.

Doug enlightened us on procedures and plans for the next parish pastoral council & trustee election. Roland, Dan and Kelly will have completed their terms and one trustee is to be elected or appointed. Doug stated the elections can be dealt with at a later date as the elections are not until June.

The next item discussed was formation of an Education Commission to assist the RE Director. The reason for the commission would be to see that Father's ideas for RE and the RE director's ideas were similar, and that they both expected the same outcome from St Joseph's Religious Education program.

Becky then gave us some information about the current RE program:

In addition to the adult bible study groups, currently there are classes for pre-school, followed by classes for 1st grade thru confirmation. The Diocese has standards for each level of RE. The Diocese also tells them which text books they may use for RE. One item of interest is that the education for 2nd grade First Reconciliation and Communion students is to be done at home by parents. Some parents have a difficult time with this requirement although they are given material for teaching what the children have to know before 1st Confession and Communion. This is a very challenging situation for the RE director.

Generally, the Council felt there should be various RE programs for all members of the parish regardless of age. This is another way to have members of the Parish know and be involved with other parish members and programs. This commission is another way we can be working toward our mission of Building a Welcoming Home of Worship, Stewardship & Fellowship.

Next we talked about who will be at the Church during Jon Peterson's absence as he recovers from surgery. The church will probably not be open on Mondays as there are no scheduled masses or employees typically working in the building. MaryAnn will open the front doors on Tuesday and Wednesday. Terry Dickinson will be asked to take care of it Thursday and Friday. On the weekends, no one present was sure what the plan will be and this will need to be discussed with Father.

After some further discussion on safety and security for the employees working in the building, Roland made a motion that B & G committee look into the cost and options available. The motion was 2nd by Doug K. and the motion carried.

Kelly inquired about who should be called if someone notices anything that is going wrong at church during Jon's absence. This will have to be discussed with Father Dave. Dan assured us that if it snowed, the snowplows will come without being called.

The next discussion was in regard to "Donut Sundays". There are a few conflicts coming up, namely Baccalaureate Sunday, the Generation of Faith Sunday, and CCW program for Mother's day. The donuts can be upstairs for whenever GOF is held. The CCW will be contacted to get a date for their Mother's Day special event.

It was pointed out that the sponsors pay \$100 for the sponsorship. The bill is actually usually between \$50 and \$60. It was suggested that we offer sponsorship for two Sundays for a \$100 donation instead of just one. This is something we'll discuss again with Father Dave present.

Gina gave us brief financial report. The boilers have been purchased and will be installed. The cost will be taken care of with investment earnings. We don't as yet know the cost of the Parish Administrator. The Finance Committee will decide how to finance that position.

There followed a discussion of the duties of a parish administrator. That will be in the position description that Father Dave is working on. It will have to be very precise, to make sure the parish understands exactly what is expected of the Administrator and what decisions will always be left to the Parish priest.

Building and Grounds committee is asking those who took care of garden spots around the church if they wish to continue. If not the areas will be given to another interested party to take care of. The Parish cleanup day will be April 29th.

The Knights will be in charge of the Way of the Cross on Thursday evenings.

Respectfully submitted; Secretary: Margaret Hollenberger